

THE
METROPOLITAN.

AUGUST, 1840.

LITERATURE.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

A Practical Inquiry into the Laws of Excavation and Embankment upon Railways; being an attempt to develop the Natural Causes which affect the Progress of such Works, and to point out the Means by which the greatest Expedition and Economy may be obtained; with an Appendix and Plates, illustrative of their Application in Practice. BY A RESIDENT ASSISTANT ENGINEER.

This truly scientific treatise is dedicated to Captain Moorsom, the chief engineer of the Birmingham Railway. We mention this merely to show, that any work, taken under the protection of a man so able as is the captain, must have, *primâ facie*, a great right to public attention. If a book of this description be well done, it must be one of paramount importance; for any one who remarks the progress of events in these times, must see that travelling by railroad will very shortly become the general means of transit, when any distance of consequence is to be overcome. So rapidly does improvement tread upon the heels of improvement, that we should not be much surprised, if, by-and-bye, even the knowledge contained in this work be thought superfluous, a level being no longer necessary for a railroad. However, till that be achieved, the work before us must always be valuable. It cannot be supposed that we, mere literary labourers, can go into a dry disquisition upon the merits of making mounds of earth, or that we should be able to show the shortest method of excelling the mole in burrowing through a hill; yet do we feel exceedingly curious on, and interested by, these matters, and have therefore read this production most attentively, and we really find that by this perusal we have had our engineering propensities excessively developed, and that we, also, should be equal to an embankment, at least in a small way. Of the value and necessity for this work let the author speak for himself.

“All members of the engineering profession must have been already convinced of the utility to be derived from an inquiry like the present, when it can be made practically available; especially if they have ever

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been engaged in the execution of large cuttings and embankments ; or observed the remarkable discrepancies which exist between the recorded opinions of celebrated engineers, given before Committees of the House of Commons, and elsewhere ; not only as to the cost, but as to the mode best adapted, and the time required for the completion of such works. But more so, if they have observed, that up to the present moment, few men, not even contractors, make out their estimates of expenditure and time upon any fixed principles—the accuracy of their estimates, in all cases, being dependent upon the conjectural instinct of the persons who may make them—and that hence, doubtless, arose the late disastrous effects upon the railway system—public confidence being unavoidably forfeited, in consequence of the glaring discrepancies between the supposed and actual outlay required for their completion.

“These discrepancies have been so various and frequent, that it would be at present unnecessary, and perhaps invidious, to make any allusion to them ; further than what is merely necessary to point out the advantage that may be derived from an experimental inquiry into the causes upon which they depend ; and a clear statement or analysis of the means by which they may be in future obviated, as afforded by the results of such an inquiry.”

The volume is conducted throughout in a most systematic manner, beginning with a statement of the principal expedients used with reference to the removal of earth, explained by experiments ; then follows the investigation of the fundamental formulæ, with experiments again ; indeed, all through, the theory is supported by experiment ; and thus the rule and the proof go hand in hand. Really, we can find nothing unnoticed that at all bears upon the subject ; and noticed so plainly, that even those but little conversant with these abstruse matters can fully comprehend them. It would be ridiculous in us to say that we recommend this book to the general reader ; or to those who in a work seek for amusement only ; but this we can safely affirm, that it contains information that no gentleman should be without, and that may be useful to every one, the ladies excepted.

The Student ; a Series of Papers. By Sir E. L. BULWER, Bart., M.P., M.A. Revised, with Additions.

We have now to notice briefly the appearance of the sixth volume of a complete edition of Sir Edward Bulwer's Works, which volume contains the remaining papers that are embraced under the tale of “The Student,” and that highly poignant and descriptive work, “England and the English.” “The Student's Papers” are “On Infidelity in Love,” “Fi-ho-ti,” “The Knowledge of the World,” and several others of a similar discursive nature, together with the “New Phædo.”

All these treatises evince the wonderful versatility and resources of the author's mind. They are all the best of the sort, told in the best manner,—searching, witty, and caustic—the “Phædo” being, at the same time, highly philosophical. Heartily do we wish that Sir Edward's views of the construction and tendency of morals were more generally adopted. Not only would this be a better, but a far more beautiful world. His “England and the English,” sarcastic and polished, has done more to shame vice than any other literary produc-

tion of the present century. We know that it is extremely unpalatable in many quarters, and must have acquired for the author many avowed and an incalculable number of secret enemies. It has, however, done good service, and after ages will be grateful to him for it. We consider it as inferior to none of his works, and that it is, in many respects, a prose Juvenal. We invite the reader's especial attention to the Appendix. The illustrations to this volume are, as usual, by Cattermole, and we think they are the best that we have seen attached to this work. The engravers have caught the spirit of the designer, and the frontispiece and the vignette title-page are very elaborate and beautiful specimens of art. We are glad to find the press universal in its approbation of this edition of the works of the most eminent author now living.

The Works of Charles Lamb. A New Edition.

This is a very complete and handsome edition of this amiable author's works, arranged in the following manner:—his poems, his dramas, and minor pieces, his first and second series of *Elia*, his tales from Shakspeare, his adventures of *Ulysses*, and, finally, *Mrs. Leicester's school*. We have lately spoken of all these portions of literature as they appeared monthly, and however delightful it may be to go again over ground so pleasant, we fear to run the risk of repetition. Almost all that Charles Lamb wrote has now become standard literature, and belongs more to posterity than to ourselves. The portrait of Lamb, though beautifully designed and engraved, is not prepossessing, considered individually. The forehead is expansive and lofty, and the skull capacious, but the countenance is too strongly lined and care-worn to be agreeable. We very much lament that it is not in our power to pronounce on the verisimilitude of the portrait to the man, never having seen him; but we hope, for the sake of the idea that we had formed of him from his writings, that the likeness is not over faithful. The vignette title-page, representing a part of Christ's Hospital, is quite in accordance with the book, and a good piece of art. The type and paper are extremely good, and the work, as issued to the public, is, without further ornament, a meet denizen for any library. Were but all publications like the one before us, the office of criticism would be not only an easy but a most pleasant one. We heartily wish that the publisher may experience all the success that exertions so laudable merit; for he is doing a national good, by excluding badly got up works of our best authors from circulation, and thus preventing mere cheapness from injuring them and the public taste.

The Paradiso of Dante. Translated by ICHABOD CHARLES WRIGHT, M.A., Translator of "*The Inferno and Purgatorio*."

Mr. Wright has done his task well, vigorously, and harmoniously. None can know the arduous nature of this undertaking, who are not fully acquainted with the mysterious tone and the ambiguous mysti-

cism of the original. Did we not know that fanaticism fears nothing, and in proportion to its blind vigour, fancies everything about it light, we should wonder that any one should attempt to describe the indescribable. The very nature of this poem entailed upon it a signal failure, notwithstanding all the rhapsodies that learned and pious enthusiasts have, and, perhaps, always will, expend upon it. In the "*Inferno and Purgatorio*," Dante had the inexhaustible mine of this world's wickedness and suffering to draw upon for his illustrations; but when he attempts to portray the illimitable and incomprehensible glory of the Eternal, he is consequently, by turns, extravagant, insane, and puerile—but always earthy—very, very earthy. Thus, every simile involves an absurdity, and necessarily affords a rich specimen of the bathos. As to mere absurdity, this divine christian poem opens with an invocation to a heathen deity. The specimens of the bathos are innumerable, and very often ludicrous; as, for example, when he and Beatrice look upon the sun, until they are so imbued with its light, that the sparks fly from them as when the smith is hammering hot iron. We would allow to poetry the very highest flight, but still within the sphere of reason. Not even Dante should be permitted to connect anomalies, or wed together apparent contradictions, and when the confusion becomes unintelligible, to call it sublimity. After all, let the most poetically constructed mind compare the effulgence and beauty that philosophy displays in the Arch-cause's boundless universe, with the pitiful and tinselled notions of the deity and of heaven, peopled with St. Bernards and St. Bridgets, which the Romish faith could furnish to a genius daring and inventive as Dante's, and then mark his failure. Though we may be looked upon as heterodox, we hesitate not to say that the whole structure of the *Paradiso* is faulty and unnatural, and that its morale is very much opposed to the sober righteousness of the reformed faith—that it is bad poetry, without being good religion. But all this detracts nothing from the merits of the translator. He is more clear, and appears to be more rational, than the original.

The following is a specimen of the verse:—

"Buonaventura's soul am I, who came
 From Bagnoregio, and with pure intent
 Preferr'd each heavenly to each earthly aim.
 Agostin, and Illuminato here—
 First of those poor ones who barefooted went,
 And in the cord by God accepted were.
 Ugo is here, and Peter Mangiadore,
 Peter of Spain with his twelve volumes too;
 And with them Nathan, prophet famed of yore.
 There Chrysostom the metropolitan,
 Archbishop Anselm, and Donatus, who
 In the first rudiments instructed man.
 Raban is here; and by my side see him
 Endow'd with soul of heav'n-taught prophecy—
 Calabria's famous Abbot Joachim.
 Of such a champion to record the praise
 Have I been moved by the warm courtesy
 Of Friar Aquinas, and his goodly phrase;
 Which also moved this circling company."

This will show that Dante took the same liberty with heaven as Southey, when he anticipated the sentences on the last day, in his "Vision of Judgment;" but the Italian went much farther than the English poet—for the former admitted twelve volume into Paradise, not his own either—which was a piece of unexampled disinterestedness.

Diplomacy and Commerce. No. III.

We presume that this is to become a regular periodical, this being the third number, one number having been published each successive month. This time we have conversational dissertations—firstly, on the despotic and constitutional principles; secondly, on the state of the nation; and, lastly, one on the commercial relations of Naples with Russia and England. There is much sound sense in all these, mixed up with a good deal of what we conceive to be prejudice. Mr. Urquhart has it all his own way, and we must say, that, at times, he is made to speak, not only pedantically, but even arrogantly. He enacts the Sir Oracle—men listen, and submit. This gentleman seems to care but little about the form of government, little about our internal organisation, making the whole of our country's prosperity contingent upon our foreign policy. Everything, in his mind, seems to be subservient to this, and to his implacable hate to Lord Palmerston. He verifies the moral of the old fable, "Nothing like leather." Another defect we shall point out is, that improper subjects are debated—such as, Would it not be better for England to be under a foreign yoke?—that of Russia for example. We think that the question was foolish and wicked, and we do not much admire the answer. The question is by a chartist and an operative. The answer was to the effect, that Russian domination here would destroy our manufactories—(we do not see why cotton stockings could not be made as rapidly under a despotism as under our excellent constitution,)—and then the multitudes would be driven starving over the land, whilst the agricultural labourers get their bellyfuls. We think that whilst there was a single head of cattle in the fields, or a sheaf of corn in a stack, the majority would not quietly perish, and see the few labourers of the soil at their ease, as Mr. Urquhart insinuates would be the case. But the question should not have been put, or, if put, not answered. It has a traitorous bearing. With a little more discretion, we think these publications may do much good. Upon the whole, we do not like this last number.

Master Humphrey's Clock. By Boz. With Illustrations by G. CATERMOLE and H. K. BROWNE.

Mr. Dickens has influenced, and is still influencing, the literary taste of the day, in a degree so remarkable, by his works, that it would be affectation to appear to treat them only as the clever though ephemeral productions that become a nine days' wonder, and then hastily make their exits to give room to other surprises, equally bril-

liant and transient. That he stands alone, and on an eminence, is apparent from the fact, that not one of his host of would-be imitators has at all approached him in any one of those excellences which constitute the fascination of his writings. Though this host of base mockers have fallen so short of his merits, they have produced, in some measure, a distaste to the subjects he selects, and the manner in which he treats them—a distaste that makes the public cry out, “there is something too much of this, we sicken with the style domestic,” whilst, had this clever author been left “alone in his glory,” when he writes, as he is now writing, in his “Master Humphrey’s Clock,” the most fastidious would never have objected to his fecundity, nor the most delicate epicure in the cates of literature have exclaimed that he was palled. An excellent fashion is left in disgust when it is attempted by the vulgar. The domestic has produced the felon school, and Rookwood and Jack Sheppard have disgusted all men of pure taste, and depraved the million, who feed so greedily upon the coarse stimulants that produce morbid excitement. Whilst the moral and the tendencies of Mr. Dicken’s Sketches are all virtuous, and sometimes ennobling, his imitators have failed in everything but the poor achievement of making thousands of the ignorant thirst for notoriety, by describing crime as heroic, and the most reckless depravity as something amiably eccentric, and the distinguishing mark of a genius that is only too aspiring. “Master Humphrey’s Clock” has continued, up to the present time, to strike smartly and sonorously, though we cannot help remarking that its chimes have been too much disposed to run riot, and rush unexpectedly from one tune to another. We understand, from the best authority, that the author thinks so himself, and we can assure the public that the intense interest excited by the natural and sweetly pathetic story of the “Curiosity Shop,” will be preserved unbroken by digression, until brought to a termination. Till that is done, neither of the facetious Wellers will be discursive upon everything in the world, and a good deal besides, and thus the reader’s attention will not be lured away by digressive wit and humour. When the “Curiosity Shop” has been brought to a conclusion, we may take the opportunity of speaking of it at large, and, till then, we shall bid its author farewell heartily, as we think, from his writings, that he is not only a clever man, but something much better.

An Inquiry into the History, Authenticity, and Characteristics of the Shakspeare Portraits, embracing Martin Droeshout’s Engraving, &c.
By ABRAHAM WIVELL.

This is a most interesting *brochure*, and only wants engravings of the various portraits alluded to, spurious as well as genuine, to make it an indispensable addition to any one who prides himself upon possessing the works of Shakspeare complete. These pleasant materials are put together with a good deal of humour, and there is an account of one Zincke, a picture restorer, and a manufacturer of antiques and new originals of persons who flourished centuries ago, that is delicious.

The man is horribly poor, which is a great reproach to all lovers of real ability, for he must be a good artist who can so successfully deceive. Let the pamphlet be improved with the additions which we have suggested, and we think that it would meet with great success.

The Honeymoon. By JOHN FISHER.

This very seductive title is prefixed to a poem of some length—clever, very, very discursive, and extremely unequal. Indeed, this poem by any other name would read as well. Our parody is not quite just—we should have said, by many other names. The first part of this production is written in the Spenserian stanza, the rest in heroic blank verse; and, so far as metre be considered, they are both good. The work is decidedly amusing, and contains many portions that rise into excellence. Now the reader must understand that the Honeymoon has none of the honey of Eros, but rather partakes of the nature of the moon in its ever-changing subjects—gay, humorous, didactic, and even pathetic in turns, but moral always. We like the honest plainness of the preface much, and we do very heartily wish that the author's little book will be as successful as he wishes it, and that it may, in his own language, "be accepted by his family and friends as a testamentary offering of esteem and affection," and that "it may also shed one bright ray on his departing hours." The following extract is a fair specimen of the author's manner.

"And who are they, yon loud equestrian pair?
They laugh, they walk, they talk in vulgar phrase,
In frock of drab, slouch'd hat, and careless air;
With dexterous hand each reins his own bright bays,
His pleasure what? his fame?—'Tis Jehu's praise.
No groom of his gives that familiar greet;
Each proud alike Olympic dust to raise;
And when they urge along th' admiring street,
With quaint salute they sign, if they their brethren meet.

"Olympic dust, I ween, and nought beside,
Each gathers daily in his empty car;
Through royal Brentford they their racers guide,
Then o'er that Heath ydrad by evening star;
Onward they drive through many a turnpike-bar,
Harrying old age and infancy of Staines;
Then to that town of purer name afar,
Till his loud stamp, who leads with tighten'd reins,
Bids them return again, to boast their bootless pains.

"Such thy hereditary counsellors,
England! Of such the Commons House compact.
Certes they were right-worthy senators,
Did they for Houyhnhnms fitting laws enact,
Or frame they well Highway or Turnpike Act;
But when with laugh they vex the man sedate,
Or cough, or whisper down the man of fact,
Or 'question,' 'order,' 'chair,' vociferate,
Were they aloft again, 'twere well for calm debate."

The Sanatorium; a Self-Supporting Establishment for the Lodging, Nursing, and Cure of Sick Persons of both Sexes.

This is a short pamphlet, which contains a prospectus of an institution highly necessary in this overcrowded metropolis; we therefore notice it on public grounds. After giving an affecting, and we know an over-true description of the multitudes who are sacrificed daily for the want of some establishment in which the evils exist that this Sanatorium is to remedy, it proceeds to state that the refuge now contemplated is to consist of separate and private chambers, furnished with the accommodations appropriate to sickness, and suitable, in every respect, to persons in the middle rank of life. Suites of rooms are to be maintained night and day at a uniform temperature, forming an artificial climate, fitted to prevent the developement of latent disease, if not ultimately to remove the constitutional tendency to it. This, with every other advantage that affluence could provide for the sick, for a certain subscription, and a certain weekly payment. We think the plan very feasible, and eminently philanthropic. By the means that it affords, the time of disease may be made, so far as outward circumstances can make it, the most luxurious portion of the life of a person of only moderate circumstances. The only thing that we fear for this plan, is in the vices of an expensive management. So far as respectability of names can assure us against this, we are well secured. However, seeing that as yet the initiation of this institution only is before the public, all that we have at present to do is to call the general attention to it. It deserves the serious consideration of every one.

Lectures on the Dramatic Literature of the Age of Elizabeth. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. Edited by his Son.

A third edition! This is well, and we rejoice at it. 'Twould be like a twice-told tale to descant upon the superior merits of a work that has become a part of the standard literature of the country. We are very unable prophets if we speak falsely in predicting that all Hazlitt's works will daily gain ground in the public estimation. He was a man of real genius, the memory of whom every Englishman ought to cherish and to venerate.

Hints, Theoretical, Elucidatory, and Practical, for the Use of Teachers of Elementary Mathematics, and of Self-taught Students. By OLINTHUS GREGORY, LL.D. F.R.S., late Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Military Academy.

This work is useful in making more obvious several of the abstruse mathematical and algebraical chains of reasoning, and in showing how far arithmetic and the pure mathematics travel together, and when they diverge into different paths. As Dr. Gregory has managed it, his work is a very useful disciplinarian for the mind, accustoming it

to think logically, and to avoid all loose deductions from premises. The treatise is produced with especial reference to the first volume of "Hutton's Course," and Simson's Euclid," as text-books. It is made still more useful by a selection of miscellaneous tables, and an appendix on the general division of plane surfaces. As this valuable volume can only interest the man of science and the student, to them we commit it, with our hearty commendation, assuring them that they will find it of great utility.

Fragments of Voyages and Travels. By CAPTAIN BASIL HALL, R.N. F.R.S. Second Series.

All that concerns the management of a ship of war, externally and internally, is cleverly displayed in this series, in an animated, clear, and peculiarly agreeable style. The whole narrative is relieved and exemplified by much *naïve* anecdote, forming, altogether, a reading of a most fascinating description. Generally speaking, the captain is too generous to all parties, and disposed to look too favourably on the blemishes of human nature. This proceeds from the happy texture of his mind, and can scarcely be regarded as a fault. Did all naval captains resemble himself, a man of war would be a floating tabernacle of comfort, and the life of a sailor be too disproportioned in its happiness. Arbitrary power is as necessary in a ship as it is dangerous to the individual who possesses it; and the only way to temper this power to good, is, by attaching to it an after responsibility, which responsibility, if carried so far as to become onerous and fretting, will destroy all the benefit it was intended to effect. From the very nature of the thing, this work is very discursive, but its variety serves only to make it the more interesting. The captain, when in the command of a vessel, was extremely solicitous to provide, not only for the comforts of his crew, but for their amusement also, and went so far as to obtain monkeys for them, perhaps forgetting all that interest and the aristocracy have done in this line. But let the captain give his own reasons.

"No dog, therefore, can ever become a very general favourite of the crew; for it is so completely his nature to be exclusive in his regards, that were a whole pack of hounds on board, they would not be enough, nor afford a tenth part of the amusement—I may almost call it occupation, which a single monkey serves out to a ship's company. I take good care, accordingly, never to be without one in any ship I command, on the sheer principle of keeping the men employed, in a good-humoured way, when they chance to have no specific duty to attend to. It must be recollected, that we are often exposed to long periods of inaction, during which mischief is very apt to be brewed amongst the people.

"But if a good monkey be allowed to run about the ship, I defy any one to continue long in a bad humour. Jacko is an overmatch for the demon of idleness, at least if light hearts and innocent diversions be weapons against which he cannot long contend. Be this as it may, I make a rule of entering a monkey as speedily as possible after hoisting my pendant; and if a reform takes place in the table of ratings, I would

recommend a corner for the 'ship's monkey,' which should be borne on the books for 'full allowance of victuals,' excepting only the grog; for I have observed that a small quantity of tippie very soon upsets him: and although there are few things in nature more ridiculous than a monkey half-seas over, yet the reasons against permitting such pranks are obvious and numerous.

"It requires some decision on the part of the captain to carry through a point of this importance, and fairly to establish Jacko on board. The first lieutenant, who is, or ought to be, a sort of demi-god afloat, generally sets his face against all pets, and swears vengeance upon the whole tribe of parrots, squirrels, rabbits, pigeons, mongooses, dogs, monkeys, cats, and, I am ashamed to say, he occasionally extends his anathemas even to lady passengers! Supposing, however, that the captain has authority and strength of mind enough to establish a monkey on board, the rogue will not have been ten minutes 'entered' before he sets to work at some mischief; for he is the only true known instance of perpetual motion."

All our author's remarks upon conduct and discipline are admirable, and he has the rare magnanimity to confess that he has once, himself, flogged a man too hastily—in other words, unjustly. The following anecdote shows how careful commanders should be in administering the torture.

"I could relate many instances of injustice arising from precipitancy in awarding punishment, and of the beneficial effects of systematically deferring to pronounce sentence till the heat of the moment had passed; but the following anecdotes, for the accuracy of which I can vouch, seem sufficient to arrest the attention to good purpose.

"Two men-of-war happened to be cruising in company: one of them a line-of-battle-ship, bearing an admiral's flag; the other a small frigate. One day, when they were sailing quite close to each other, the signal was made from the large to the small ship to chase in a particular direction, implying that a strange sail was seen in that quarter. The look-out man at the maintop-mast-head of the frigate was instantly called down by the captain, and severely punished on the spot, for not having discovered and reported the stranger before the flag-ship had made the signal to chase.

"The unhappy sufferer, who was a very young hand, unaccustomed to be aloft, had merely taken his turn at the mast-head with the rest of the ship's company, and could give no explanation of his apparent neglect. Before it was too late, however, the officer of the watch ventured to suggest to the captain, that possibly the difference of height between the masts of the two ships might have enabled the look-out man on board the admiral to discover the stranger, when it was physically impossible, owing to the curvature of the earth, that she could have been seen on board the frigate. No attention, however, was paid to this remark, and a punishment due only to crime, or to a manifest breach of discipline, was inflicted.

"The very next day, the same officer whose remonstrance had proved so ineffectual, saw the look-out man at the flag-ship's mast-head again pointing out a strange sail. The frigate chanced to be placed nearly in the direction indicated; consequently she must have been somewhat nearer to the stranger than the line-of-battle ship was. But the man stationed at the frigate's mast-head declared he could distinguish nothing of any stranger. Upon which the officer of the watch sent up the captain of the main-top, an experienced and quick-sighted seaman, who, having for some minutes looked in vain in every direction, asserted posi-

tively that there was nothing in sight from that elevation. It was thus rendered certain, or at all events highly probable, that the precipitate sentence of the day before had been unjust; for, under circumstances precisely similar, (or even less favourable), it appeared that the poor fellow could not by possibility have seen the stranger, for not first detecting which he was punished!

"I must give the conclusion of this painful story in the words of my informant, the officer of the deck, one of the kindest, and bravest, and best of men. 'I reported all this to the captain of the ship, and watched the effect. He seemed on the point of acknowledging that his heart smote him; but pride prevailed, and it was barely an ejaculation that escaped. So much for angry feelings getting the better of judgment!'"

All the chapter on suggestions towards diminishing the number and severity of naval punishments, is admirable, and deserves the attention of men at head-quarters. We are extremely pleased with lucubrations such as these, for, in their easy, quiet way, they do an incalculable deal of good. Captain Hall is a gentleman in its highest and most amiable sense of the word, and, though a Tory, liberal in his ideas, and almost always just in his conclusions. Though he has written principally upon subjects merely transitory, we promise for his works a longer celebrity than many other naval ones of more pretension are likely to enjoy. We take our leave of him, hoping again soon to see him in print, for he is so seen as much to advantage as in his uniform.

Canadian Scenery Illustrated. Uniform with American Scenery, Switzerland, Scotland, &c. From Drawings by W. H. BARTLETT. Engraved in the first style of the art by R. WALLIS, J. COUSEN, &c. The Literary Department by N. P. WILLIS, Esq., author of "Pencilings by the Way," "Inklings of Adventure," &c.

The brilliancy of the illustrations of this work ought not to deprive its literary part of precedence, for it is admirably performed, although it does not run parallel with the engravings. The style of Mr. Willis's prose is animated and perspicuous, and he gives us the completest idea of the Canadas with which we have yet met. We do not mean to speak of its policy and history, but merely of the most interesting topics that are connected with it, and not the least among those is his very graphic description of the Indians. He thus speaks of their manner of inflicting torture.

"There are, however, many occasions in which the more inhuman resolution is taken, and a fearful display is then made of the darkest passions that can agitate the human breast. The captive is informed of his fate by being invested with moccasins of black bear-skin, and having placed over his head a flaming torch, the sure indication of his doom. Before the fatal scene begins, however, he is allowed a short interval to sing his death-song, which he performs in a triumphant tone. He proclaims the joy with which he goes to the land of souls, where he will meet his brave ancestors who taught him the great lesson to fight and to suffer. He recounts his warlike exploits, particularly those performed against the kindred of his tormentors; and if there was any one of them whom he

vanquished, and caused to expire amid tortures, he loudly proclaims it. He declares his inextinguishable desire to eat their flesh, and to drink their blood to the last drop. This scene is considered, even when compared with the field of battle, as the great theatre of Indian glory. When two prisoners were about to be tortured by the French at Quebec, a charitable hand privately supplied a weapon, with which one of them killed himself; but the other derided his effeminacy, and proudly prepared himself for his fiery trial. In this direful work the women take the lead, and seem transformed into raging furies. She, to glut whose vengeance the doom has been specially pronounced, invokes the spirit of her husband, her brother, or her son, who has fallen in battle or died amid torture, bidding him come now and be appeased, a feast is prepared for him, a warrior is to be thrown into the great caldron; his blood will be poured out; his flesh torn from the bones; let the injured spirit then cease to complain. A game begins between the torturers and the tortured—one to inflict the most intense suffering, the other to bear it with proud insensibility. That there may be some appearance of open contest, he is not chained, but merely tied to a post, and a certain range allowed, within which, while the brand, the hatchet, and every engine of torture are applied, he can do something to repel his assailants, and even attack in his turn. He struggles fiercely in the unequal strife, and while his frame is consuming in agony, still defies his tormentors, and outbraves death itself. Some even deride the feeble efforts of their executioners, boasting how much more effectively they themselves had applied torture to individuals of their tribe. Yet there are instances where the murderers at last triumph; the sufferer exclaims, 'Fire is strong, and too powerful;' he even utters loud shrieks, which are responded to by exulting shouts of savage laughter. Some few have been known by almost incredible efforts to break loose, and by rapid flight effect their escape. The general result, however, is death, after protracted suffering; when the scalp, if still entire, is taken off, and deposited among the military trophies."

The whole of the letter-press of this, the fourth part, is devoted to the Indians. The engravings are the "Village of Cedars, River St. Lawrence," which is a romantic view, clearly engraved, "The Bridge at Sherbrooke," "The Cathedral, Montreal," and "Nelson's Pillar," at the same place; all of which are very superior in their different styles.

Rough Notes of the Campaign in Sinde and Affghanistan, in 1838-9; being Extracts from a Personal Journal, kept while on the Staff of the Army of the Indus. By MAJOR JAMES OUTRAM, 23d Regiment N.I., now Political Agent in Sinde. Illustrated by Plans of Ghizni and Khelat. Reprinted from the Bombay edition.

All the well-informed public are well aware of the great political changes that have recently been brought about among a portion of the native Indian states by our interference, ending with the deposing of Dost Mahommed Khan. The agency of this singular revolution is admirably described in these "Rough Notes"—notes that will give the reader a truer knowledge of the manner of Indian warfare than any other publication that it has hitherto been our fortune to meet. The world wants more of this kind of honest, straightforward, and perspicuous writing. Many deep and some distressing reflections

will be suggested by a perusal of this work, not the lightest of which will be the very precarious tenure by which we hold in subjugation our vast empire in India. It is by the *prestige* of success, and nothing else. A very short series of defeats would be at once fatal to our supremacy, and to the well-being of millions which our supremacy alone secures. The native princes are barbarians in every sense of the word, and in the worst sense—as depopulating tyrants. They carry the vices of our Norman kings to an extent that was unknown even to them.

“Game restrictions of extraordinary severity are established to guard the aristocratic privileges of the princes; the common people, except in the capacity of beaters for their masters, never being permitted to enter the hunting forests, or to destroy game in their vicinity, under pain of death, a degree of tyranny monstrous even for Sinde, and which would almost exceed belief, did we not know on undoubted authority that the late Meer Futteh Ali Khan, on one occasion, depopulated, at a loss to his revenue of between two or three lacs of rupees annually, one of the most fertile spots in the neighbourhood of Hyderabad, because it was frequented by a species of hog deer, the *kota pacha*, (*axis Porcinus*,) which he had most pleasure in hunting; and that, more recently, Meer Mourad Ali Khan unrelentingly banished the inhabitants of an ancient village, and razed it to the ground, because the crowing of the cocks, and the grazing of the cattle, disturbed the game in his brother’s domain, which was contiguous.”—*Visit to Sinde*, by J. Burnes, K.H.

As the army made its painful way through Sinde, it was surrounded with plunderers and murderers, instigated by the treacherous Ameers, and whilst the local difficulties were insurmountable to all but British courage and perseverance. It was thus that the strong, and by the Indians thought to be impregnable, fortress of Ghizni was taken.

“23 July. By 3 A.M. the various detachments were at their respective posts, and all the guns in position at points which commanded the eastern face, as well as the Cabul gate of the fortress. So quietly and judiciously were these arrangements effected, that not a single shot had been elicited from the garrison, until, at last, they were aroused from their fancied security by the false attack made upon the opposite quarter. The storming party, led by Colonel Dennie, then rushed up the Cabul gate, where they opened a fire upon the parapets which commanded the entrance, whilst Captains Thompson and Peat, with two other officers of Engineers, attached the powder-bags to the gate. These, exploding, burst it open, and, ere the garrison could recover from the astonishment into which they were thrown, Colonel Dennie, at the head of the storming party, rushed in.

“An attempt was afterwards made by the enemy to recover the lost gateway, and a large party of them for a moment actually occupied it in the rear of the storming party, until the advance column, under General Sale, consisting of the remainder of the four European regiments, closing up to its support, the Affghans were once more dislodged, though several officers and men, chiefly of the 2nd or Queen’s Royal regiment, were wounded in the struggle. Ere it was broad daylight, our troops were in complete possession of the lower town, the garrison descending from the walls, and effecting their escape, in every direction, no attempt being made on their part to dispute the citadel, above the bastions of which the British colours floated before the sun rose.

“The capture of the strong fortress of Ghizni was thus accomplished within three-quarters of an hour from the commencement of the assault,

the British loss being surprisingly small, considering that much individual gallantry was displayed in its defence, and that a heavy fire was opened on the columns of attack the moment the garrison ascertained their intention and direction. In the absence of the official returns, I would estimate the total loss on our side, from first to last, at about fifteen officers, and one hundred and twenty men wounded, in addition to about twenty men killed. The darkness, which prevailed during the conflict, being more favourable to the assailants than to the besieged, the latter suffered most severely: every street was strewn with the slain—not fewer than five hundred having been killed within the walls, and fifty-eight alone having fallen in the attempt to defend one fortified house against a company of H. M.'s 17th foot. Numbers also of the fugitives were cut up by the cavalry, upwards of fifty being killed by the 1st Bombay Light Cavalry alone, with the loss only of one havildar killed, and six troopers wounded."

It is by wonderful successes such as these, that India is awed, and English soldiers held to be invincible. We would very much wish to give a description of the taking of Khelat, but the quotation would not be intelligible without the plan. It was an affair quite as glorious as the other. After this, the major was sent in pursuit of Dost Mahommed Khan, and a very romantic pursuit it was, although deprived of success by the treachery of one of the Shah of Persia's generals, who was sent to co-operate with our gallant countryman. Indeed, treachery seems to overlay the whole of these people's transactions like an entangled net; for we find faiths broken three or four deep, and falsehood complicated in a manner the most bewildering. After all that military courage could do was achieved, the major set out for Bombay in disguise, in order to ascertain if he could discover any more direct military road to Affghanistan than that which the army had already found so difficult. His journey was full of adventure, but the results of his observations were not favourable. The northern part of India seems to be a most impracticable country, thinly inhabited, and overrun with wild hordes of robbers, each horde under a chief nearly independent, bad neighbours and dangerous enemies. We cannot take leave of this very interesting volume without doing our brave soldier the justice of inserting the following letter:—

" TO CAPTAIN OUTRAM, &c. &c. &c.

" SIR,—I am desired by his Majesty Shah Shooja ool Moolk, to convey to you his acknowledgment of the zeal, gallantry, and judgment displayed by you in several instances during the past year, whilst employed in his Majesty's immediate service.

" His Majesty desires me to specify three instances, on which your merits and exertions were particularly conspicuous.

" First, on the occasion of your gallantry in placing yourself at the head of his Majesty's troops engaged in dispersing a large body of rebels who had taken up a threatening position immediately above his Majesty's encampment on the day previous to the storm of Ghizni.

" Secondly, on the occasion of your commanding the party sent in pursuit of Dost Mahommed Khan, when your zealous exertions would in all probability have been crowned with success, but for the treachery of your Affghan associates.

" And thirdly, for the series of able and successful operations, con-

ducted under your superintendence, which ended in the subjection or dispersion of certain rebel Ghiljee and other tribes, and which have had the effect of tranquillizing the whole line of country between Cabul and Candahar, where plunder and anarchy had before prevailed.

"For these signal and important services his Majesty has commanded me to signify to you that he has been pleased to confer upon you the Second Class of the order of the Douranee Empire, as a mark of his royal approbation.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. MACNAGHTEN,

"Envoy and Minister.

"Jellabad, 7th January, 1840."

A Descriptive Tour in Scotland. By T. H. C.

This tour is excessively individualized, and is more a record of personal impressions than a description of scenery and a relation of facts bearing upon Scotland. This manner of treating a subject always gives the work an earnestness that carries with it the reader's suffrages, thus sacrificing instruction to amusement, for it can very little benefit the world at large to know when the author hungered, and when he was athirst—when he slept well, or ill, or not at all; nor is it very momentous to know how often our interesting friend was flea-bitten—yet, on all these subjects are we duly informed. Some may think these blemishes in his volume—we do not, for they make excellent gossip—and gossip, when good, is not to be despised. On the other hand, the author has an intense relish for the beautiful and the majestic in all nature's works, and great power in describing that which he so powerfully feels. He is also a very fair draftsman, as the lithographed views in the work fully evince. He protests over and over again that his is not a guide-book. We will not hurt his feelings by contradicting him, but say that it is almost as good, for service—as a companion, infinitely better. The following quotation is a very fair specimen of his descriptive acumen.

"We now soon came in view of Staffa and its attendant group of islets. Many of these make more show in the distance than itself, their forms being more broken than that of Staffa, which is round and lumpy. The wonders which it shuts up in its bosom, can only be discovered on a near approach. Our vessel slacked sail, and we embarked in the very small boat which had been attached to its stern. The boy Sandy acted as pilot, and took one of the oars through a considerable swell to a sheltered rock, where we landed upon fragments of basaltic pillars, worn by the action of the tide into a sort of rudely tessellated pavement. We had now to climb up some steep basaltic rocks, so broken at intervals as to resemble stairs, whence again descending we crept along a sort of ledge, rounding the island, when a sudden turn revealed to us the farther side of the great cave. With all my hate of having raptures dictated to me, I actually did what the guide-book declares essential to be done, on first beholding this stupendous sight, namely, uttered an exclamation of delight and astonishment. Nothing that I had as yet seen had prepared me for the surpassing grandeur of this face of rock. I think that it struck

me more even than the interior of the cavern itself. This, however, might partly arise from the first sensation being always the strongest and in a degree exhausting the feelings, and partly from my having seen so many views of the cave, that I had formed for myself a tolerably accurate picture of its general appearance. That wherein it chiefly differs from any representation is, that there is none of that artificial formality which the pencil perhaps necessarily conveys. All is bold, free, and natural, though regular, and the detail of chequered colour and broken surface is so varied that one rises above all petty notion of the masonry of art. The roof alone presents so much the appearance of having been hollowed out by the hand of man, that one can scarcely persuade oneself that the recent marks of the axe and chisel are not distinguishable. Guided by Sandy, we scrambled along a sort of causeway, formed by a lower range of pillars that seem to have been broken short off, and thus penetrated into the very heart of the cave. From hence the glories of this natural cathedral are heightened by the view, through its rugged portal, of the blue sea and the island of Iona. But the faculty of sight was soon absorbed in that of hearing. The sea always forms the floor of this cavern and reaches to its very extremity, and, as there is a marvellous swell on this coast, the tide, at flow, rushes in with a sullen sweep, and, penetrating into some hidden cleft at the end of the cave, produces a sound which in its hollow grandeur exceeds the diapason of mightiest winds or even of echoed thunder amongst our own mountains. I could have forgotten time in listening to it; but our young scamp of a guide rather hurried us with alarms about the tide, and the swell, and our little boat; so we were forced to beat a retreat. In our way back to the shore, we just looked at another remarkable cave, composed of basaltic strata so curiously bent that they resemble the ribs of a great ship. The people of the country, however, call this the Clamshell Cave, from a resemblance they think it bears to a clam-shell, *anglicè* a limpet. I have a slight sketch of it to show you. We now returned to our vessel, and made for Iona with a wind so favourable that even our captain was forced to abandon his favourite system of tacking. The appearance of Staffa, as we looked back upon it, was most extraordinary. The side it now presented to us was so regularly built up with columns, and so perforated with caverns, that it resembled what one might conceive of a vast palace of the genii. Perhaps, however, this fine simile is less true than Henry's homelier comparison of a great Indian wigwam, the roof of which was formed by the grassy top of the island. Iona is only eight miles from Staffa, so that we soon ran there. Its appearance, as one approaches it, is bare and desolate. Indeed, in none of these western isles, except Mull, is there a bush even, and many of their inhabitants have never seen a tree, (as Long Tom confidently affirmed,) so that the sarcasm of Dr. Johnson about his walking-stick remains in full force up to the present day. The only objects that catch the eye on Iona are its glittering white beach and the extensive ruins of its cathedral which rise amongst the miserable cottages. Near this we anchored, and landed in the boat. Even before we touched land, we were besieged by a troop of half-naked amphibious-looking boys, who emulously presented to our notice platesful of Iona pebbles, and, as we walked on toward the ruins, other tribes kept persecuting us and poking their plates in our faces, ever crying out, like the Welsh children who used to torment us for our sins, 'gie us a bawbee!' At length the nuisance became so intolerable that we were forced to turn and face the enemy, and, charging them with our sticks, compel them to retire to a respectful distance."

The author tells us, among other things, that he is hypochondriac; if it be so, he is very happy in his disease, for it works upon him most

pleasantly, seeing that every page sparkles with animation, and displays the very best of spirits. We may suppose him to be the Grimaldi of literature—no small compliment to one who is himself the clever cause of merriment in others. It would hardly be just to the reader not to give him the impression that the seat of the late Sir Walter Scott made upon the author, though we like the book so well that we wish that he, the reader, would make himself acquainted with it from the original.

“ I have seen Abbotsford, and I hardly know whether I do not regret that I have done so. It is *not* the Abbotsford of imagination, nor of the author's description. Where is the ‘romance in stone and lime?’ Dwindled to a mere story. In the exterior of a dwelling there is no congruity, no massive nobleness. In the interior, there is no space for ghosts to play at hide and seek. If there be a few odd holes and corners, they appear rather like small remnants of a scanty cloth that has been cut into a thrifty garment, than the ‘ample room and verge enough’ of true antiquity. Nothing is on a great scale. Ichabod,—the glory is departed. In this, as in other instances, exaggerating describers have much to answer for. At their hands, one demands an account of one's demolished hopes and scattered visions. Could these haunt them in an army, it would be but just retribution. Had I heard nothing about Abbotsford, I might have been much pleased with it, as a mansion externally picturesque, and internally comfortable; but now—

“ Of itself there is something strange in the feeling with which one sees a place about which the imagination has long been busied. When that which was an airy nothing, a fluctuating possession of the mind, liable to change by the breath of a word, or the touch of a pencil, assumes a fixed and a substantial shape; when the treasure of the fancy becomes the property of memory; when thoughts are turned into events, and surmises into certainties; all this is ever strange: but, should the place essentially contradict our preconceived notions; should one glance destroy our castles in the air, and build up cottages in their room, it is bewildering. Truth seems to have turned juggler; our senses to betray us. We have not only to learn, but to unlearn; and, in the first conflict of old and new sensations, we feel pretty much as did the poor gentleman, in the *Médecin malgré lui*, when informed that the heart lay on the right side, and the lungs on the left.

“ But I will dwell no more on my surprises and disappointment at Abbotsford. After all, I had not come to see a fine place, but the abode of one of the greatest men that ever lived. Besides, the presiding spirit is gone, the wand of the mighty magician is broken. It is not fair to judge of Rome now that its palmy days are over. How could we, who were led over the house by a servant-girl who could tell us scarcely anything, judge of the impression which Abbotsford must have produced upon any favoured guest, to whom Sir Walter himself acted as guide, when the relics of antiquity, with which the rooms are stored, received the life-light of his eloquence; when the iron-studded door of the Tolbooth, the gun of Rob Roy, the hunting-bottle of King James, the instruments of torture, dignified by the constancy and fortitude of patriots or martyrs, all and each drew forth the infinite variety of his legendary lore? Now all was silent, all was dispiriting. About the whole space was an air, not exactly neglected; no! for everything is well kept, but there were slight tokens that told of death. The vistas were grown up, the trees darkened the windows, the flowers wanted the last touch of neatness, the rooms, though fully furnished, had not an inhabited look.

“ These melancholy impressions became stronger when we were told

that we were in the room where Scott died; nay, on the very spot where he drew his last breath. After his return from Italy, the dining-room had been fitted up for him as a bed-room, and there was the Merlin chair in which he used to wheel himself about, in his sickness and helplessness. How sad! The wielder of other men's intellects was reduced to impotence over his own. I had only to recal his own words, and the whole scene seemed present to me. Poets *must* be prophets; else, how could he have attained to such a pathetic embodying of what was to happen to himself, as he has given in his introduction to the *Chronicles of the Canongate*? It is thus: 'The easy chair filled with cushions, the extended limbs swathed in flannel, the wide wrapping-gown and night-cap showed illness; but the dimmed eye, once so replete with living fire, the blabber-lip, whose dilation and compression used to give such character to his animated countenance; the stammering tongue that once poured forth such floods of masculine eloquence, and had often swayed the opinion of the sages whom he addressed: all these sad symptoms evinced that my friend was in the melancholy condition of those in whom the principle of animal life has unfortunately survived that of moral intelligence.'"

We have given to our notice of this clever volume much more space than we had intended, but we have been beguiled into this exemplification by the pleasantness of the subject. We cannot predict for it, with all its various merits, a great renown, or many editions; but a good share of popularity it is well calculated to attain. If our friends cannot go to Scotland in *propria persona*, they may spiritualize themselves in our author, and make a very pleasant journey.

The Book of the Great Sea-Dragons, Ichthisauri, and Pleriosauri Gedolin and Tanim, of Moses, Extinct Monsters of the Ancient Earth; with thirty Plates, depicted from the Skeletons in the Author's Collection of Fossil Remains, deposited in the British Museum. By THOMAS HAWKINS, ESQ., F.G.S., &c.

We have been fairly astonished at the display of this magnificent-looking volume, the contents of which are not less terrible than the title. We can but dimly make out that the author attempts to derive proofs from the fossil remains that are so plentifully dispersed over the world, of the Mosaic account of the creation. He is rapt, inspired with his subject, and his language has all the sublime of the Delphic obscurity. We fear that for many a tedious night these same great sea-dragons must have sat upon his slumbers like so many hideous incubi, and have given that distortion to his language which makes the sublime so nearly approach to the ridiculous. It is an act of great temerity to speculate upon what took place on this earth at the time of chaos, and a great while before it; and still more rash for any mortal to say what was to be seen before the Deity said, "Let there be light." However, Mr. Hawkins, before the creation of the world, contends there was a dim light, quite sufficient for his sea-dragons to play their awkward pranks by, which, certainly, is throwing some light upon the subject. The work is, altogether, a curiosity, and as such will be read with interest. That the author is an unwearied searcher

after, and an enthusiastic advocate for, truth, his production fully exemplifies ; but, before he becomes popular, he must consent a little to descend from the altitudes of inspiration, the fire of which has dazzled him too much, and thus makes him obscure through excessive brightness.

The Pictorial History of England, being a History of the People, as well as a History of the Kingdom. Illustrated by many hundred Wood-cuts, &c. &c.

A solitary number of this work (Part XLI.) has found its way to our library table. Where are all its predecessors? Are we to be treated as was the ancient purchaser of a house, by having a single brick offered him as a specimen by which to judge of the whole building? This history has a title of great promise—the history of the people, as a population, has always been too much neglected for the history of the rulers and their nobles. Does this production remedy a defect so glaring? Really, upon the little that we have of it, we cannot pronounce an opinion upon the whole. Thus much we can say, that the wood-cuts in this isolated number are neither many nor of a high order of merit. Till we become more acquainted with this “Pictorial History,” we must be permitted to remain silent upon its pretensions.

A Mission of Education ; an Appeal for the Education of all Classes in England. By a Friend to Justice.

This appeal is sufficiently eloquent, and almost sufficiently sensible. No one doubts the propriety of universal education ; but the manner, and the men who are to educate, in that lies the difficulty. We have a faint glimmering that the very best method of procuring an universally educated population would be by judicious legislation, so to improve the condition of all classes, that the poorest amongst us would be enabled to educate their own offspring after their own heart.

The Works of Josephus. Translated by W. WHISTON, A.M.

The third part of this work has come to hand, on which we have nothing further to remark than that it runs nearly *pari passu* with the Old Testament, each corroborating each. This division brings the Jewish history down to the time of Jehu, and will be found highly interesting, independently of the sacred truths which they so strongly confirm. In addition to the woodcuts, which are not so numerous in this part as in the former ones, there is a very splendid engraving of Tyre, either from a steel or copper plate, by Lacey, after that very clever artist, Bartlet. We can predict that this publication will become highly popular.

FINE ARTS.

The Exhibition of the Royal Academy of 1840.

We shall make a few more remarks upon some of the pictures for which we could spare no room in our last number, and commence with those of Stanfield. If the perfection of painting be to present the verisimilitude of nature under her most fascinating and sunny aspects, this artist has fully attained that perfection. As we look upon his representations, we forget all the jargon of the art, and think no more of talking about aerial perspective, *chiara 'scuro*, keeping, and so on; we are only conscious of having truth before us, and that requires no explanation to make us understand it. He makes his colour do its exact duty in its right place, and the sun itself can do no more upon real lands and seas. In the east room he has "Cetara, in the Gulf of Salerno, looking towards the coast of Calabria," a view that gives this artist a fine scope for his genius, and of which advantage he has excellently availed himself; and in the same room, 148, "Ancona, on the Adriatic," is equally good; and we may apply the same remark to 155, a "View of Sorrento, on the Bay of Naples." In the middle room we cannot but admire the judgment of the hanging committee, for they have placed one of the worst and most ridiculous pictures that paint and stupidity could produce, J. Ward's "Love flying from Sensuality and Dissipation," next to one of Stanfield's most glorious Italian landscapes, in order that the spectator may judge of the two extremes of the art. The two pictures are numbered 270 and 271, and are in exact contrast. And what are we to say of Turner? Verily, all that is artist in the man is mad—not only mad north and by east, but mad all round the compass. Seven small garden-engines, charged with the seven primitive colours, and set to play upon the canvass, would produce something very like one of his pictures, but, to our taste, something also that we should like much better; and yet this man is praised by reviewers and artists for some recondite qualities that show their effects in such glaring absurdities as those which the Royal Academicians are impudent enough to hang upon their walls. Why his brother artists praise him can easily be imagined. If two or three among themselves could persuade all the rest to paint like Turner, the lucky two or three would get all the practice and make all the money. It would be a sorry speculation to reflect upon how many shillings his "Rockets and blue lights" will fetch in a broker's shop some ten years hence. There are some good pictures exhibited this year by Charles Landseer, and among them his "Nell Gwynne" may challenge the most searching criticism. 72 is good, and finished in a style that ought to be encouraged. It is a scene from Allan Ramsay's "Gentle Shepherd," and by some one of the name of Johnston. The less said about the Royal Academician's picture of "Our Saviour with the Doctors in the Temple," the better for the said Royal Academician. No. 92, by T. Uwins, is worth looking at, and 115 worth looking at and buying. 95, "Proserpina," is very well treated, but has faults too numerous to be specified. Mr. Howard's "Old Age" will never rival his youth. We remember some very glorious pictures from his pencil. We have looked carefully at Mulready's pictures this year, and the result of our observations is, that we can very readily conceive him to have been guilty of the atrocity of penny-postage notoriety. Sir A. W. Callcott, R.A., covers a great space with his canvass in a picture that should be deemed historical, and it is purposed to represent "Milton dictating to his daughters." It is a masterly, but very certainly not a pleasing picture; and if the daughters be likenesses, Milton's blindness was not so

great an affliction, for one of the young ladies is a very coarse, vulgar wench, and the other is in an impossible shadow. The effect of light and shade is very inartificially managed. However, as this artist employs his talents in the right direction, we will not carp at him, but take our leave, wishing him better success. Edwin Landseer is great in dogs and birds; he is painter in ordinary to all the brute creation, and they are extraordinary lucky in their artist. 139, Her Majesty's macaw, her love birds, her terrier, and her spaniel puppies, are given with a startling reality, and are the most faithful and spirited portraits in the exhibition, without exception of man, woman, or beast. On the subject of portraits, we must here mention that Eastlake, R.A., has offered for inspection certain outlines and masses of colour which he would palm upon us as a portrait of Miss Bury. It is an imposition. The lady has the face of an angel, as nearly as humanity can realize the idea—of a full-blown one, we will admit—but it is angel still. O Mr. Eastlake! you and your brother R.A.s may think that you have done wonders; but pray have the goodness in future not to take so fair a model to paint from. In the miniature department the exhibition is very good; in the statuary tolerable. Altogether, the nation need not be ashamed of this the seventy-second display of the proficiency of her artists. Although the whole constitution of the Royal Academy is vicious in the extreme, and should be broken up immediately and remodelled, yet, in spite of all this, it is very evident that England possesses great talent.

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 Sandron Hall, or the Days of Queen Anne. By the Hon. G. Berkeley. 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.
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Draper on the Parables. New Edition. Square 16mo. 3s. 6d.

Anderson's Ancient Models, containing Remarks on Church Building. 18mo. 3s. 6d.

White's Profession and Practice. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo. 5s. 6d.

Athill's Way of Catechising. 12mo. 3s.

Owgain's Miscellanea Homérica. 8vo. 12s.

Glasgow Infant School Repository. 18mo. 3s.

John George Schmidgall. By the Rev. C. G. Barth. Square 16mo. 1s. 6d.

Lessons on Natural Philosophy. 18mo. 2s. 6d.

LITERARY NEWS.—WORKS IN PROGRESS.

The volume of Sir E. L. Bulwer's works for the present month is "PAUL CLIFFORD." The Illustrations are by Cattermole. We are glad to see this beautiful edition so highly appreciated in every part of the country. We think it decidedly the most beautiful collection of the kind we have had, and for cheapness it is certainly without parallel.

The new novel of "THE POPE" is to be immediately published. The author will not be known, but we hear he is a gentleman of literary fame; his forthcoming work is said to be one of peculiar interest.

Sir Francis Doyle's Poems are now published. The Rev. W. Liddiard's new volume is in progress.

A new and enlarged edition of that entertaining volume "ADVENTURES OF AN ATTORNEY IN SEARCH OF PRACTICE," is just ready. It has undergone a thorough revision and improvement.

The new work, which we lately mentioned, "TWO SUMMERS IN NORWAY," by the author of "The Angler in Ireland," is proceeding towards completion.

Mr. James, whose "LIFE AND TIMES OF RICHARD CŒUR DE LION," we mentioned as just committed to the press, is now on the Continent, pursuing his researches in the foreign libraries on some difficult points in his laborious history. We anticipate great pleasure from the perusal of this interesting and important work.

The translation of "WALDEMAR," from the Danish, is in a forward state.

THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

Trade, both foreign and domestic, has been very fluctuating during the whole month of July, and though a vast deal of business has been done in the manufacturing line, it has been mostly at small, and too often at no profit at all. Foreign competition meets us everywhere, and the pressure of our national debt, and the high price of provisions, owing, we sincerely believe, to the corn laws, make us reduce our operatives to the starving point. Tea and sugar are now beyond the reach of the labouring population of England, and what next they will be reduced to it is dreadful to contemplate. We think that more attention should be

paid to the humbler classes by our legislature. To add to the gloominess of the prospect, we are threatened with a defective harvest in grain; but still we think that the resources of the country, if rightly wielded, are inexhaustible. The next half year will be an arduous one.

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Kept at Edmonton. Latitude 51° 37' 32" N. Longitude 3° 51' West of Greenwich.

The mode of keeping these registries is as follows:—At Edmonton the warmth of the day is observed by means of a thermometer exposed to the north in the shade, standing about four feet above the surface of the ground. The extreme cold of the night is ascertained by a horizontal self-registering thermometer in a similar situation. The daily range of the barometer and thermometer is known from observations made at intervals of four hours each, from eight in the morning till the same time in the evening. The weather and the direction of the wind are the result of the most frequent observations. The rain is measured every morning at eight o'clock.

1840.	Range of Ther.	Range of Barom.	Prevailing Winds.	Rain in Inches	Prevailing Weather.
June					
	23 68-49	29.68-29.63	S.W.		Morn. clear, aftern. and even. cloudy, with rain.
	24 60-46	29.87-29.73	N.W.	.1	Generally clear, raining during the night.
	25 62-42	29.95-29.91	W.		Cloudy, rain in the afternoon.
	26 66-47	30.09-30.02	W.		Gen. cloudy, rain in the afternoon and evening.
	27 70 56	30.10-30.07	W.	.105	Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
	28 69-57	30.03-29.99	N.		Generally cloudy.
	29 70-51	29.99-29.98	S.		Gen. clear, except the evening, when rain fell.
	30 66-53	29.94-29.88	S.W.		Gen. cloudy, rain during the morn. and aftern.
July	1 65-48	29.84-29.77	S.W.	.135	Cloudy, raining frequently during the day.
	2 66-57	29.73-29.60	S.W.	.025	Cloudy, raining nearly all the day.
	3 65-55	29.50-29.49	S.W.	.06	Afternoon clear, otherwise cloudy, with rain.
	4 70-51	29.83-29.72	W.	.03	Evening overcast, otherwise clear. [in aftern.]
	5 69-55	29.69-29.65	W.		Morn. cloudy, otherwise clear, a shower of rain
	6 67-50	29.72-29.48	S.W.	.025	Morn. clear, otherw. cloudy, raining in the even.
	7 64-48	29.67-29.50	S.W.	.12	Aftern. clear, otherwise cloudy, rain about 9 A.M.
	8 65-51	29.72-29.68	S.W.	.01	Generally cloudy, with rain. [wind boisterous.]
	9 67-48	29.91-29.73	W.	.08	Generally cloudy, a little sun-shine in morn., rain
	10 65-48	29.91-29.87	S.W.	.035	Noon cloudy, with rain, otherw. clear. [in aft.]
	11 65-51	29.89-29.88	W.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
	12 67-46	29.90-29.89	W.		Except the evening, generally clear.
	13 67-43	30.05-29.89	N.		Gen. clear, except about noon, when rain fell.
	14 71-38	30.18-30.16	S.W.		Evening overcast, otherwise clear.
	15 75-54	30.20-30.12	S.W.		Clear.
	16 77-49	30.09-29.93	S.		Generally clear, except between 9 and 11 A.M.
	17 71-48	29.91-29.84	W.		Generally clear.
	18 70-54	29.73 Stat.	W.	.01	General overcast, small rain at times.
	19 72-56	29.67-29.52	S.W.		Cloudy, with rain. [afternoon and evening.]
	20 68-50	29.51-29.49	S.W.	.075	Gen. clear, except the morning, rain fell in the
	21 71-52	29.63-29.51	S.W.	.06	Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
	22 61-49	29.84-29.71	S.W.	.205	Morning cloudy, with rain, otherwise clear.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

PRICES OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS.

On Tuesday, 28th of July.

ENGLISH STOCKS.

Bank Stock, 174 and a half.—Consols, 90 seven-eighths.—Three per Cents. Reduced, 91 one-fourth.—Three and a Half per Cents. Annuities, 99 three-eighths.—Exchequer Bills, 24s. 23s. 25s. prem.—India Stock 254 one-half.

FOREIGN STOCKS.

Portuguese Three per Cents. Acct. 22 five-eighths.—Dutch Two and a Half per Cent., 53.—Dutch Five per Cent. 102 three-fourths.—Spanish Bonds, Acct. 26 three-eighths.—Spanish deferred, 12 one-fourth.

MONEY MARKET REPORT.—The operations in the Stock Market for the month have been on an extended scale, chiefly sale, which has, of course, given things a gloomy and unwholesome appearance. How long this state of affairs may continue depends principally on the state of money and the prospects of the weather. Money is at present easy, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent is about the rate, but it seems to be a pretty prevalent opinion that it is "tightening," which will perhaps account for the heavy sales made in the Home Funds. The Foreign Stocks have also a downward tendency. Spanish affairs are on the wane, and the prices of the Stock show a quick and successive decline, brought about by the large sales made by the speculators, who, in for the rise, find it not supported, and are therefore most anxiously attempting to escape without loss. Altogether, the fluctuations in prices have taken a range of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. The second report of the Committee of Spanish Bondholders has been a nice kettle of fish in the absence of other more important food for the digestive organs of the city scribes of the daily press.

Railway Shares have been done at lower prices, and the market is far from being steady. Brighton closed 8 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ dis.; Birmingham, 91 93 prem.; Blackwall, $1\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ prem.; and Great Western, 36 37 prem.

Quarterly Average of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of England, from April 28 to July 21, 1840, both inclusive, published pursuant to the Act 3 and 4 Wm. IV., cap. 98.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation . .	£16,951,000	Securities . .	£22,865,000
Deposits . .	7,573,000	Bullion . .	4,529,000
	<u>£24,529,000</u>		<u>£27,394,000</u>

Downing Street, July 23, 1840.

BANKRUPTS.

FROM JUNE 23 TO JULY 24, 1840, INCLUSIVE.

June 23.—A. Mitchell, Devizes, tea-dealer.—J. Gisborne, Brynderry, Monmouthshire, cattle-salesman.—W. Holdaway, Petersfield, inn-keeper.—J. P. Jackson, and P. Jackson, Manchester, wool-dealers.—T. Crowther, Liverpool, wine-merchant.—J. Pape, Leeds, tailor.—R. Cockson, Manchester, commission agent.—J. Ackerman, Bruton, Somersetshire, draper.—J. Coleman, Ipswich, builder.—E. A. Lucas, Salford, Lancaster, calico-printers.—J. Jardine, Haverfordwest, timber-merchant.—J. Wood, Liverpool, wine and spirit merchant.

June 26.—J. Robins and C. Williams, London-wall, carriers.—R. A. Phelps, Queen-street, Cheap-side, ink manufacturer.—D. S. Wilkins, Gloucester, spirit-dealer.—E. H. Hart, Gateshead, Durham, glass manufacturer.—W. F. Cowper, Mumps, Lancashire, mercer.—T. Rhodes, Shaw, Lancashire, ironfounder.—R. Ferris, Bristol, and J. H. Butler and J. Butler, Liverpool, merchants.—J. Williamson, Boston, carpenter.—J. Statter, Tetworth, Oxfordshire, innholder.—G. Bothamley, Sheffield, plumber.—J. Roberts, Claretton, Yorkshire, horse-dealer.—S. Tucker, Exeter, builder.—C. Clarke, Cambridge, gun-maker.—J. H. Carter and C. Lawrence, Huddersfield, machine-makers.—B. B. Smark, Honiton, scrivener.

June 30.—G. F. Bloxham, Broad-street, wine merchant.—A. J. M. la Beaume, Argyll-street, medical galvanist.—R. Benbow, Liverpool, timber merchant.—W. Chadwick and J. Chadwick, Ashton-under-Lyne, cotton spinners.—J. Grime, Bury, Lancashire, engraver to calico-printers.—J. Dobson, York, woollen draper.—A. Tempest, Bradford, worsted-spinner.—A. M. Reid, Liverpool, commission agent.

July 3.—J. Henderson, Poland-street, Oxford-street, carpenter.—F. Ladewig, Tottenham-court-road, confectioner.—J. Malcolm, Green Man Tavern, Soho, licensed victualler.—T. Hall, jun., Hackney-road, baker.—W. Ward, Saffron Walden, carpenter.—H. Thomas, Shrewsbury, scrivener.—H. Marsh, Plymouth, coal-merchant.—W. Greatwood, Birmingham, money-scrivener.—J. Stainthorpe, Hexham, Northumberland, brewer.—G. Hood, Brownhills, Staffordshire, earthenware-manufacturer.—W. W. Tookey, Ashton-under-Lyne, mercer.

July 7.—T. Wright, London, coffin furniture dealer.—J. Battersby, Whitechapel-road, window glass cutter.—T. W. Chapman and J. Parker, of the Grove, Southwark, flax spinners.—E. Glass, Oxford-street, wine and spirit merchant.—W. Little, Liverpool, stay manufacturer.—J. Thompson, Birmingham, coal dealer.—J. H. Dowling, Gloucester, scrivener.—E. Knight, Southampton, upholsterer.—W. Cousins, Salford, Lancashire, joiner.—W. Dingle, Plymouth, butcher.—W. Langmead, Teignmouth, banker.—J. Gibbs, Wembdon, Somersetshire, common brewer.—J. Leigh, Consall, Staffordshire, coalowner.—J. Gurney, Sheffield, ivory scale cutter.—J. E. Warden and V. Wanostrocht, Liverpool, merchants.

July 10.—W. Rowbottom, Mottram-in-Longtendale, Cheshire, grocer.—E. Turk, Birmingham, factor.—J. Dillon, Hereford, brazier.—W. Robinson, Liverpool, provision-dealer.—R. Lamb, Stockton, iron-merchant.—J. Hogg and F. Sharpe, Leeds, cloth-merchants.—R. Williams, Llanrwst, Denbighshire, druggist.—H. Huxham, Swansea, porter merchant.—

J. Hanton, York, joiner.—A. Clark, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, draper.—G. Brooks, Manchester, draper.

July 14.—W. Munroe, jun., and T. Munroe, Milk-street, City, merchants.—C. W. H. Dowden, Bridge-house-place, Newington-causeway, Surrey, chemist and druggist.—G. Baxter, Long-lane, Bermondsey, carrier.—W. Beer, Washington, Sussex, grocer.—M. Capella, Birmingham, furniture-broker.—J. Lord and J. Bennett, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, millwrights.—T. Gledhill, Dewsbury-moor, Dewsbury, clothier.—J. Allen and H. Allen, Macclesfield, bankers.—J. Staveacre, Sheepwash, Oldham, druggist.—E. Holden, Manchester, innkeeper.—T. Edwards, Stoke-upon-Trent, ironfounder.—R. Oldfield, Dawpeen, Yorkshire, card-maker.—C. Fletcher, Horsforth, Yorkshire, cloth-manufacturer.—H. Jacob, Manchester, merchant.—W. Nixon, Boston, ironmonger.—T. Bailey, T. Bailey, and J. Bailey, Batley Carr, Yorkshire, woollen-manufacturers.—T. Lloyd, Market Deeping, grocer.—E. E. Day, Bristol, surgeon.

July 17.—J. and E. Cockrell, Basinghall-street, wool brokers.—F. Banner, Luton, Bedford, straw-hat manufacturer.—J. Stedwell, Richmond, Surrey, butcher.—J. Sutton, Liverpool, broker.—W. Boardman, Ashton-under-Lyne, plumber and glazier.—J. Herd, Liverpool, common brewer.—A. Parkinson, Leeds, wine merchant.—J. W. V. Jackson, Wolsingham, Durham, spirit merchant.—E. Walker, Well-house, Yorkshire, merchant.—J. Roberts, Clodoch-mills, Herefordshire, and J. Roberts, jun.,

Abergavenny, wine merchants.—R. Beasley Gaddesby, Leicestershire, worsted spinner.—T. Wycherly, Wem, Shropshire, commission agent.—G. Rickerby, Birmingham, draper.—H. Clarke, Baker's Arms, Northampton, baker.—J. Morley, Kingston-upon-Hull, coal-merchant.

July 21.—T. Farley, Upper Clapton, grocer, R. Brine, Hart-street, Crutched-friars, wine-merchant.—E. Thomas, Aldermanbury, tailor.—I. Isaacs, Chatham, Kent, army clothier.—W. R. Barrill, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.—W. Robinson, Kirton-in-Linsey, Lincolnshire, scrivener.—F. Blew, Castletown, Monmouthshire, innkeeper.—W. James, Llangatock, Brecknockshire, general shopkeeper.—D. Hogarth and Co., Rochdale, iron-founders.—J. Edwards, Bristol, corn and provision merchant.

C. S. Clark, Rosemary-lane, licensed victualler.—W. Barrett, Newcastle-place, Edgware-road, plumber.—J. Johnson, Love-lane, warehouseman.—F. F. Carruthers, Manchester, distiller.—J. Shepard, jun., Southampton, painter.—P. Iregent, jun., Birmingham, stationer.—J. Lightfoot and J. Jaques, Askrigg, Yorkshire, maltsters.—J. Jones, Llanfaes, Brecknockshire, maltster.—W. W. Booth, Hanley, Staffordshire, colour-manufacturer.—B. Ineson, Batley, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer.—R. Coley, Gloucester, scrivener.—W. Buckland, Bremilham, Wiltshire, tanner.—R. F. Beeston, Liverpool, marble mason.—J. Ulyart, Crawland, Lincolnshire, cattle dealer.—J. Wood, Lee-side, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, merchant.—G. Morgan, Birmingham, glass cutter

NEW PATENTS.

H. A. Taylor, of New York, now of Milk Street, Cheapside, Merchant, for improvements in the manufacture of braid and plats. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. May 28th, 6 months.

A. F. Campbell, of Great Plumstead, Norfolk, Esquire, and C. White, of the city of Norwich, Mechanic, for improvements in ploughs and certain agricultural implements. May 28th, 6 months.

Sir J. J. Guest, of the Dowlais Iron Works, Glamorgan, Baronet, and T. Evans, of the same place, Agent, for certain improvements in the manufacture of iron and other metals. May 28th, 4 months.

E. Leach, of Rochdale, Lancaster, Machine Maker, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for carding, doubling, and preparing wool, cotton, silk, flax, and other fibrous substances. May 28th, 6 months.

D. Gooch, of Paddington Green, Engineer, for certain improvements in wheels and locomotive engines to be used on railways. May 28th, 6 months.

W. H. Smith, of York Road, Lambeth, Civil Engineer, for an improvement or improvements in the mode of resisting shocks to railway carriages and trams, and also in the mode of connecting and disconnecting railway carriages, also in the application of springs to carriages. May 28th, 6 months.

G. H. Bursill, of River Lane, Islington, Gentleman, for an improved method or methods of weighing, and certain improvements in weighing machines. May 28th, 6 months.

J. Allison, of Monkwearmouth, Durham, Iron Master, and R. Lumsden, of the same place, Chain and Anchor Manufacturer, for improvements in the manufacture of iron knees for ships and vessels. May 30th, 6 months.

J. B. Wicks, of Leicester, Frame-work Knitter, for improvements in machinery employed in frame-work knitting or stocking fabrics. May 30th, 6 months.

W. Pettitt, of Bradwell, Bucks, Gentleman, for a communicating apparatus to be applied to railroad carriages. May 30th, 2 months.

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R

J. Hawley, of Frith Street, Soho, Watch Maker, for improvements in pianos and harps. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 1st, 6 months.

P. D. de Montmiral, of London Wall, Gentleman, for certain improvements in the manufacture of bread. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 2nd, 6 months.

R. F. Martin, of Derby, Gentleman, for certain improvements in the manufacture of certain descriptions of cement. June 2nd, 6 months.

S. S. Eagles, of Liverpool, Engineer, for certain improvements in obtaining motive power. June 2nd, 6 months.

J. Harvey, of Basing Place, Waterloo Road, Timber Merchant, for certain improvements in paving streets, roads, and ways, with blocks of wood, and in the machinery or apparatus for cutting or forming such blocks. June 2nd, 6 months.

W. Southwood Stocker, of Birmingham, for certain improvements in machinery applicable to making nails, pins, and rivets. June 2nd, 6 months.

C. Dain, of Edgbarton, Warwick, Gentleman, for certain improvements in the construction of vessels for containing and supplying ink and other fluids. June 2nd, 6 months.

J. Roberts, of Sheffield, Merchant, for an improved mode of fastening certain kinds of horn and hoof handles to the instruments requiring the same. June 3rd, 6 months.

S. W. Smith, of Leamington, Iron Founder, for improvements in apparatus for supplying and consuming gas. June 9th, 6 months.

R. Hampson, of Mayfield-Print Works, Manchester, Calico Printer, for an improved method of block printing on woven fabrics of cotton, linen, silk, or woollen, or of any two or more of them intermixed, with improved machinery, apparatus, and implements for that purpose. June 9th, 6 months.

A. S. Stocker, of Birmingham, for improvements in the manufacture of tubes for gas and other purposes. June 9th, 6 months.

C. Nickels, of York Road, Lambeth, Gentleman, for improvements in the manufacture of braids and plats. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 9th, 6 months.

T. Edmonson, of Manchester, Clerk, for certain improvements in printing presses. June 9th, 6 months.

J. G. Shuttleworth, of Feamley Place, Glossop Road, Sheffield, Gentleman, for certain improvements in railway and other propulsion. June 9th, 6 months.

F. Greaves, of Radford Street, Sheffield, Manufacturer of Knives and Forks, for improvements in the manufacture of knives and forks. June 11th, 6 months.

W. Lance, of George Yard, Lombard Street, Insurance Broker, for a new and improved instrument or apparatus, to be used in whale fishery, part or parts of which, upon an increased scale, are also applicable as a motive power for driving machinery. June 11th, 6 months.

B. Winkles, of Northampton Street, Islington, Copper Plate Manufacturer, for certain improvements in the arrangement and construction of paddle-wheels, and water-wheels. June 11th, 6 months.

J. Wolverson, of Willenhall, Stafford, Locksmith, and W. Rawlett, of the same place, Latch Maker, for certain improvements in locks, latches, and other fastenings for doors. June 13th, 6 months.

E. J. Coates, of Bread Street, Cheapside, Merchant, for certain improvements in propelling canal and other boats. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 13th, 6 months.

E. J. Carpenter, of Toft Monks, Norfolk, a Commander in the Royal Navy, for improvements in the application of machinery for assisting vessels in performing certain evolutions upon the water, especially tacking, veering, propelling, steering, casting, or winding, and backing astern.—June 13th, 6 months.

R. Beard, of Egremont Place, New Road, Gentleman, for improvements in apparatus for taking or obtaining likenesses and representations of nature and drawings, and other objects. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 13th, 6 months.

R. Prosser, of Birmingham, Civil Engineer, and J. J. Rippon, of Wells Street, Middlesex, Ironmonger, for certain improvements in apparatus for heating apartments, and in apparatus for cooking. June 17th, 6 months.

R. Prosser, of Birmingham, Civil Engineer, for certain improvements in manufacturing buttons for certain materials, which improvements, in manufacturing, are applicable, in whole or in part, to the production of knobs, rings, and other articles from the same materials. June 17th, 6 months.

T. De la Rue, of Bunhill Row, Manufacturer, for improvements in printing calicoes and other surfaces. June 20th, 6 months.

J. Aitchison, of Glasgow, Merchant, and A. Hastie, of West Street, Finsbury Square, Merchant, for certain improvements in generating and condensing steam, heating, cooling, and evaporating fluids. June 24th, 6 months.

W. H. Burnett, of Wharton Street, Bagnigge Wells Road, Gentleman, for improved machinery for cutting or working wool. June 24th, 6 months.

W. Wood, of Wilton, Carpet Manufacturer, for certain improvements in looms for weaving carpets and other fabrics. June 24th, 6 months.

W. Ash, of Sheffield, Manufacturer, for certain improvements in augers, or tools for boring. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. June 24th, 6 months.

J. Luse, Jun., of Manchester, Calico Printer, for certain improvements in the art of printing calico and other surfaces. June 24th, 6 months.

MISCELLANEOUS, PHILOSOPHICAL, &c.

THE PNEUMATIC RAILROAD.—We are glad to see that this new application of an important natural power to the formation and working of railways, the invention of Henry Pinkers, Esq., has been brought into successful practice. Mr. Pinkers may congratulate himself on at length seeing the result of some years of anxious mental labour brought in a tangible form under the view of the public. The sceptical can now judge for themselves, and be convinced that Mr. Pinkers' invention was no visionary scheme, as some believed; and those engineers who, it appears, feared its success, apprehensive that it would, if brought into use, curtail their own profits, and they have not been small, as railway shareholders can testify, should at least now have the grace to admit that they were wrong in their opposition to that gentleman's plans. We regret to learn that Mr. Pinkers' invention is already infringed by persons who were his confidential agents, who received profit from his employment, and who learned from him the practice of the plan, which is now so fully proved as to set at rest for ever the doubts of such as could not comprehend an invention that, by simple but well-arranged mechanism, brings to our use one of the most important natural powers available to produce speedy communication between distant parts, without the danger to life and property to which the common plan of railroads is liable.

We understand also that the successful originator of the above invention has succeeded in a method by which he is enabled to bring this physical law of nature to bear on the most important of all interests in a national point of view—we mean the cheap cultivation of the soil. He is enabled to apply power in its cheapest form of application, viz. stationary engines for steam or water, through the medium of the auxiliary power of vacuum, to tillage, and thus to dispense with the use of horses, that consume so much of the produce of the soil. It is estimated that there are one million of horses in England alone used in agriculture; their annual maintenance is about thirty pounds each, equal to *thirty million pounds a year*. How much more desirable that this immense sum should annually add to the comfort of the miserable portion of our population! Forty millions of acres of poor lands, too, may be brought into cultivation, if the economical power can be made to succeed. Mr. Pinkers is preparing to make an experimental exemplification of his new application of power. We must wish him success in a pursuit so beneficial.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL REMAINS.—A letter from Bucharest contains some interesting particulars of an archæological discovery recently made in Wallachia. The letter is from M. Billecocq, Consul General of France in the principalities of the Danube, and states, that at a distance of two or three leagues north-west of Bonzeo, a small town of Wallachia, situate on the road from Bucharest to Jassy, some peasants found several objects in the fields where they were at work, which they supposed to be of common metal, and therefore sold the most massive for a trifle to one of those troops of Bohemians who travel the country, exercising the profession of farriers and tinkers. "This utensil, which by its form might be taken for a vast water-jug, was broken up with a hatchet by its new proprietors, for the purpose of satisfying themselves as to the nature of the metal, and the use to which they could turn it. It was of pure gold, as were all the other objects found at the same time, and remaining in the hands of the peasants. The prince, when at length he heard of these facts, instituted inquiries on the subject, and all the articles were given up to his agents; but, to this day, it has been impossible to obtain from the peasants the knowledge of the exact spot at which the discovery was made. Even threats of criminal proceedings and punishment have failed. I send you a complete list of these fine antiques, and drawings of some of them. I say *antiques*, because the mythological representations which they bear justify me in at once assigning the whole of them to ancient art. On one of the collars, of which I send you a drawing, there is an inscription which might prove a very valuable indication, but to all here it is unintelligible. Even at Vienna the inscription has been pronounced undecipherable:—but I should think it will be read at the Institute." The list accompanying the letter contains a very detailed account of the various objects recovered from the peasants and Bohemians; all which are of gold, some ornamented with crystal and coloured stones. They include two rings or large circles—a gorget or breast-plate—four lamps, one representing a falcon, two the goddess Iris, and the fourth without figured ornament—three vases with handles—a plateau or tray—and a patera.—*Athenæum*.

MR. LOUGH'S SCULPTURE GROUPS.—Every instance of decided patronage of the highest order of art gives us pleasure, and the more in proportion because we feel that such instances are far too unfrequent to be considered, *en masse*, an adequate national encouragement for its cultivation. Like angel visits, they are, indeed, but few and far between; and when the wealth and countenance of our country are bestowed, it is almost invariably upon the purchase of ancient pictures, or of statuary manufactured in Italy, of an inferior kind to what could be produced at home. It is not that we would question the taste which covets the *chefs d'œuvres* of the old masters, even at the enormous sums they fetch in the market; but when we see thousands and tens of thousands of pounds given for their works, we cannot help reflecting on the effect the disbursement of these sums would have upon the genius of England. These thoughts occurred to us on the view of a group of sculpture executed by Mr. Lough for Sir M. White Ridley; a composition which is not only honourable to the parties concerned—the patron and the artist, but well calculated to elevate the character of our native school. Mr. Lough began his extraordinary career with a work of wonderful promise, and it rejoices us to recognize in his present effort, the first he has made since his return from Rome, another performance, which fully satisfies the high expectations which his early creations excited. The new model is a group of three figures, of the life size: Bacchus, a Bacchante nymph, and a Youth upheld by the other two, in the pyramidal form, so much admired as a grace and beauty in the art. The pose of the standing statues is exceedingly fine. The Bacchus, with his right shoulder thrown boldly back, displays the humeral and pectoral muscles in full play; whilst the truly female nymph on the other side is thrown into no greater action, or more elevated raising of the arms, than is necessary for the pouring out of wine from a small amphora into a shallow cup. On their shoulders is upborne the human youth, whose age is between boyhood and manhood, and who has been tempted by the jolly god and his sweet companion into an indulgence which has nearly overpowered his reason. The contrasts in the three personages, or rather, we should say, the attributes apposite to their natures and conditions, are admirable. The Bacchus, "ever fair and young," is of the Antinous class, uniting ease with vigour, and gracefulness with strength. The Bacchante is woman, but poetical; the limbs are round and exquisitely turned; and the bust and head of captivating loveliness. The Youth is equally well designed; the frame not yet confirmed, and rendered more lax by the state of inci-

pliant inebriation in which he is plunged. The whole are flesh and blood,—not clay, or plaster, or marble,—and the spectator fancies, without a stretch of the imagination, that he could touch and feel the warmth and life of these glorious creations. Of the varied expressions of the countenances, we shall only say that they are worthy of the figures; in the latter, the anatomy is perfect and natural, without exaggeration; and, in the former, the story of the group is told without the utterance of a word of explanation. Of the classical accessories introduced to give finish and propriety to this splendid performance we shall abstain from speaking, being content that they are in harmony and keeping with the general design, and that that design is one of the very finest we have ever seen executed in England during our conversancy with its living arts. May we see many such.—*Lit. Gaz.*

STENOGRAPHIC MUSICAL MACHINE.—Among the many useful inventions in which our age abounds, there was frequently missed by musical composers some instrument by means of which the conceptions of musicians might, like those of the poet, be committed to paper at the very moment of their dawning on the imagination. Signor Dell' Oro, an accomplished artist, just arrived in this country, after several years of assiduous research, has at length completed a stenographic musical machine which perfectly answers the object of such an invention. By attaching this sort of self-acting writer to a pianoforte or organ, every note that the artist or *improvvisatore* may play on that instrument will be instantly reproduced in a manner equivalent to writing. Signor Dell' Oro is also an excellent vocalist, and has exhibited his talents in some of the fashionable morning concerts.

ANCIENT TOMB.—A Paris scientific journal gives an account of the discovery of a stone sarcophagus, while digging a sepulchral vault in the ancient sacristy of the Abbey of Montierneuf. The body is shaped from a single block, and the lid formed of several pieces, joined together; it gradually narrows from the head downwards; the place for the head is marked by a semicircular recess, cut in the stone; and the blocks of which the lid is composed are in a state of almost natural rudeness. The entire consumption of the human body prevents all observation as to the manner of interment. The sarcophagus contained none of those vases filled with perfumes which it was customary to deposit in places of sepulture prepared within dwellings, or in their immediate neighbourhood, but only some fragments of a small metal spoon. From researches made by M. Lacroix, the curate of Montierneuf, it seems probable that this sarcophagus contained the remains of William II., abbot of Montierneuf, who died towards the close of the thirteenth century. Besides the sarcophagus, some Roman coins, and several of the Middle Ages, were likewise discovered.—Speaking of discoveries, we may mention a pleasant one, made by a proprietor of the town of Aire, in Artois, of a gold ring, enriched with several diamonds, of great value. It is of remarkable beauty, but very ancient form. The fortunate proprietor is said already to have refused 15,000 francs (600*l.*) offered by an Englishman.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—June 22.—Principally occupied in conversations and suggestions about church extension at home and abroad.

June 23.—Nothing of importance occurred.

June 25.—Several private bills were passed, and many unimportant discussions took place on various subjects.

June 26.—What took place this day had no general interest.

June 29.—The Lords were busied with the Irish Municipal Corporations Bill, making progress in it, and many amendments.

June 30.—They passed the Poor Rates Assessment Bill, and then Lord Melbourne explained the nature of the Union of the Canadas' Bill, against which the Duke of Wellington strongly protested; it was, however, read a second time.

There was no house until

July 2.—When there was a great deal of conversation, and no business of importance.

July 3.—The Royal Assent given to twenty-seven bills, both public and private.

July 6.—Occupied with the Irish Municipal Bill, and more progress made.

July 7.—The Canada Union Bill was proceeded with, the Duke of Wellington giving notice of several amendments.

July 9.—On the motion that the report on the Canada Union Bill be brought up, the Duke of Wellington moved that, in the first clause, the words "fifteen months" be substituted for "six months," as the period at which the act should come into operation. This amendment was agreed to without discussion.—Some amendments were then proposed by Lord Ellenborough, but subsequently withdrawn. And several were adopted, emanating from other lords, many of them verbal, and all of minor consequence.

July 10.—Was wholly occupied in bringing forward various bills a stage.

July 13.—The Lord Chancellor read the following Message from her Majesty, preparatory to the future introduction of a Regency Bill:—

"Victoria Regina.—The uncertainty of human life, and a deep sense of my duty to my people, render it incumbent on me to recommend to you to take into consideration the contingency which may hereafter occur, and to make such provision as the circumstances may seem to you to require for the exercise of the Royal authority,

"I shall be prepared to concur with you in such measures as may appear best calculated to maintain unimpaired the power and dignity of the Crown, and thereby to strengthen the securities that protect the rights and liberties of my people."

Viscount Melbourne immediately moved that her Majesty's Message be taken into consideration the next day.—On the order of the day for the third reading of the Canada Government Bill (with amendments) being read, the Duke of Wellington said, that nothing which had transpired since the second reading of the bill had induced him to alter the opinion he then entertained on the question. Under all the circumstances he could not vote for the third reading of the bill, at the same time he thought that it should be referred to the other house for further discussion. After some words from some other noble lords, and a brief reply from Lord Melbourne, who lamented the noble duke's continued distrust and disapproval of the measure, the bill was read a third time and passed.

July 14.—After some unimportant business, the Lord Chancellor gave notice that on Thursday he would bring in a bill to carry into effect the measures contemplated by her Majesty's Message. And the rest of the sitting was occupied in conversation.

July 16.—After some unimportant matters had been discussed, the Lord Chancellor, in introducing the Regency Bill, explained that the object of it was to provide for the possible contingency of the succession of a minor to the Crown. It is proposed that his Royal Highness Prince Albert shall be sole Regent, with only three restrictions on the exercise of the regal prerogatives; viz., that the Royal Assent shall not be given to any Act for altering the succession to the throne; for interfering with the uniformity of doctrine and discipline at present existing in the Established Church; or for diminishing the legal privileges of the Church of Scotland.—The bill was then read a first time, and the second reading fixed for Monday.—The Administration of Justice Bill was read a third time and passed.

July 20.—The House was occupied on the details of the Irish Corporations Municipal Bill.

July 21.—The Lord Chancellor having moved the second reading of the Regency Bill, the Duke of Sussex thought it incumbent upon him, from the position which he occupied, and his near relation to her Majesty, to express his opinion upon the measure, of which, in its general principles, he highly approved. Although, however, he concurred with the framers of the bill in its main features, and especially as to the extent of power to be entrusted to the Regent, he thought, that as its object was to secure the direct succession to the throne from every possible contingency, they had not gone far enough, no provision being made for the custody of the heir in case the Regent himself should be removed. And after some other remarks, the Lord Chancellor expressed his satisfaction at the approbation which the general principles of the bill had met with from the illustrious Duke. With respect to the objection that it did not provide for every possible contingency, he thought, however, that it was scarcely consistent with the wisdom of Parliament to legislate by anticipation for a longer period in advance than was absolutely necessary. As regarded the question of a second marriage, the clause prohibiting the Regent's marriage with a foreigner had been introduced into

the bill passed in the reign of his late Majesty, because the illustrious persons to whom the high office was then to be entrusted were both females, and it was thought that they would be able to exercise their duties less *sui juris* if under any foreign influence. This, however, could not operate in the present case. The bill was then read a second time without opposition.

July 23.—The Royal Assent was given by commission to the Canada Government Bill, the Vaccination Extension Bill, the Police Rates Assessments Bill, the Timber Ships Bill, the Borough Watch Bill, the Masters in Chancery Bill, the Protestant Episcopal Church (Scotland) Bill, the Arms (Ireland) Bill, and several private Bills.

July 24.—Various public and private bills were forwarded one stage, but nothing of importance took place.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—June 22.—The Emigration Bill was passed, a very important measure, permitting the Hill Coolies of the East Indies to convey their labour to supply the want of negroes in our colonies. Several questions of various matters asked, and many of them answered by the ministers.

July 23.—After the usual routine of ineffective debates, Mr. F. Kelly moved for leave to bring in a bill for the Abolition of the Punishment of Death except in the cases of high treason and actual murder. The offences on which he now proposed to legislate were fourteen, reducible to four or five classes. Among these fourteen, there were four affecting only property, being embezzlements of South Sea and other specified stocks of Companies by servants in their employ. His proposed bill would of course include these. It would also include attempts at murder, where death did not ensue. With respect to rape, it was peculiarly important to beware of capital infliction. It could be proved that within the present century there had been no fewer than seventeen cases in which innocent men had been convicted of this offence: eight of the seventeen had been executed! In case of burglary, the offender would be effectually deterred by confining the capital punishment to murder, for he knows that murder is a probable result of burglary, and if murder follow, he has therefore his own death to apprehend. In case of arson, too, if life were lost, the penalty would be death, as for simple murder, and if only property were destroyed in the fire, death ought not to follow.—Lord J. Russell wished for another year's experience as to the effect of the various remissions introduced by himself in 1837.—The Attorney-General reiterated the recommendation of Lord J. Russell for delay.—Mr. F. Kelly, in reply, expressed his intention to set the bill down for a second reading, in the hope of its passing into a law during the present session. Leave was given to bring in the bill.—A long debate followed, on a resolution proposed by Mr. Plumptre, that after the present session no parliamentary grant be made to the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth. The motion was ultimately negatived by 121 to 24.

June 24.—No house.

June 25.—Nothing of consequence occurred until Mr. Ewart brought in his bill for a reduction of the duty on foreign sugar, which he lost by a large majority.

June 26.—On the motion of Lord Stanley, and after a long preliminary discussion, the House went into committee on the Registration of Electors' (Ireland) Bill. Lord Morpeth moved that the words "twentieth day of July" be expunged, and the words "the registration" be inserted in their room. This change, as Lord Stanley expressly said, involved the main principle of the measure so entirely, that if defeated on it, he should not feel justified in proceeding any farther with the bill; and accordingly issue was hereupon joined. The debate was prolonged for a considerable time, and on the committee dividing, the numbers were—For Lord Stanley's clause, 275; for Lord Morpeth's amendment, 271; majority against ministers, 4.—After which much altercation ensued, upon various matters and a badgering of the ministers, all unworthy of record.

June 28.—The adjourned debate on the Weaver Churches Bill was resumed, and two attempts to modify it were defeated.—The Sugar Duties Bill and the Chimney-sweepers Bill were respectively read a third time and passed.

June 30.—Sir Robert Inglis brought forward his motion for money to build more churches, which he lost by a majority of 19, in a very full house, 149 voting for it.

July 1.—No house.

July 2.—There need have been none, for all the business that was transacted.

July 5.—The house was principally employed in routine business, and the formation of committees.

July 6.—The Weaver Churches Bill was read a third time and passed.—A new writ was moved for East Cumberland, in the room of Major Aglionby, deceased.—Lord Palmerston observed that the orders in Council made no difference in our actual relations with China, but would receive their definite character from subsequent events. In case of an amicable adjustment, ships and cargoes, whether Chinese or neutral, would be restored; in the event of hostilities, Chinese vessels would be condemned and neutrals released by a Court of Admiralty duly commissioned.—Lord Stanley announced, that after the extraordinary nature of the opposition to his Irish Registration Bill, and the impossibility of carrying it through during the present session, he did not intend to proceed with it.

July 7.—There was a great deal of debating upon the manner of settling and colonizing New Zealand; some other minor business was disposed of, and the Scotland Episcopal Church Bill passed.

July 8.—Mr. Sergeant Talfourd withdrew his Copyright Bill, but intimated that he should bring it on again at an early period next session.—Mr. F. Kelly then moved the second reading of the Bill for the Abolition of Capital Punishments. He contented himself with stating, that in compliance with what he understood to be the general wish, he had prepared bills for extending the principle of the present measure to Ireland and to Scotland; and expressed a hope that he should be able to pass at least the English bill in the present session.

July 9.—The most important matter under consideration, was the continuance of the New Poor Law for another year, the amendments against it being lost.

July 10.—No business of paramount importance.

July 13.—After the presentation of petitions, the Royal Message relative to the proposed Regency Bill was read, and an Address to her Majesty was agreed to, and ordered to be presented by such Members as are of the Privy Council.—The House having gone into Committee of Supply, the vote for the pay of 2,000 additional men for the navy was proposed.—The Cracow affair then came under consideration, in which government were generally condemned.

July 14.—The London and Greenwich Railway Bill was passed, and a long debate took place on the Emigration Bill.

July 15.—The Midland Counties Railway Bill was passed. The Abolishing Capital Punishments Bill, notwithstanding the opposition of ministers, progressed another stage.

July 16.—Nothing worthy of recording.

July 17.—Several bills were advanced a stage, and much discussion took place on various subjects.

July 20.—The Farnham Rectory Bill was passed, and the several clauses of the Canada Reserves' Bill discussed.

July 21.—The Poor Law Commission Bill was passed by a large majority.

July 22.—A great deal of routine business, and the evening was lost by the statement of grievances, and replies on the motion of going into a Committee of Supply.

July 23.—A long debate on the assessing of stock in trade for the poor rates.

July 24.—Was occupied in voting money for several purposes in the Committee of Supply; the ministers, notwithstanding opposition, always get the whole of the sums they ask for.

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